



Registered Charity Number: 1149988

Fighting poverty in Lawra, Upper West Ghana

EducATE Report

The purpose of this report is to analyse the impact that the EducATE program has on the health (by measuring the height and weight of each student) and attendance (by recording data from the school registers) of students attending Karbo Primary and Junior High Schools. Through this report, we will be able to tell if we are achieving our aim of enabling children to access education. The data used in this report was recorded by ATE employees and volunteers in January 2012-2015 and July 2015.

According to the Ghana Education Service, 23% of children in the area were registered at a school. According to Sarah Gardner, CE of ATE, the EducATE program was implemented to 'enable children to access education¹' by encouraging them to attend school by providing a free school meal program.

Key points

- ATE now feeds 654 students every day

Karbo Primary (Since January 2013)

- Average height at Karbo Primary School has increased by 1%
- Average weight at Karbo Primary School has increased by 5.7%
- Attendance at Karbo Primary School has increased by 16.51%
- KG1's attendance has increased by 33.65%
- KG2's average weight increase of 12% (2.28kg) was the largest
- P1's average height increase of 2.75% (4cm) was the largest

Karbo JHS (Since Jan 2015)

- Attendance has increased by 3.75%
- Average height has increased by 2.04% (3cm)
- Average weight has increased by 3.07% (1.58kg)
- JHS1 saw the greatest increase in attendance with an improvement of 4.97%
- The attendance rate is higher amongst girls (98.32%) than boys (96.32%)
- JHS1 is the fastest growing class with an average weight increase of 5.37% (2.65kg) and a height increase of 2.55% (4cm)

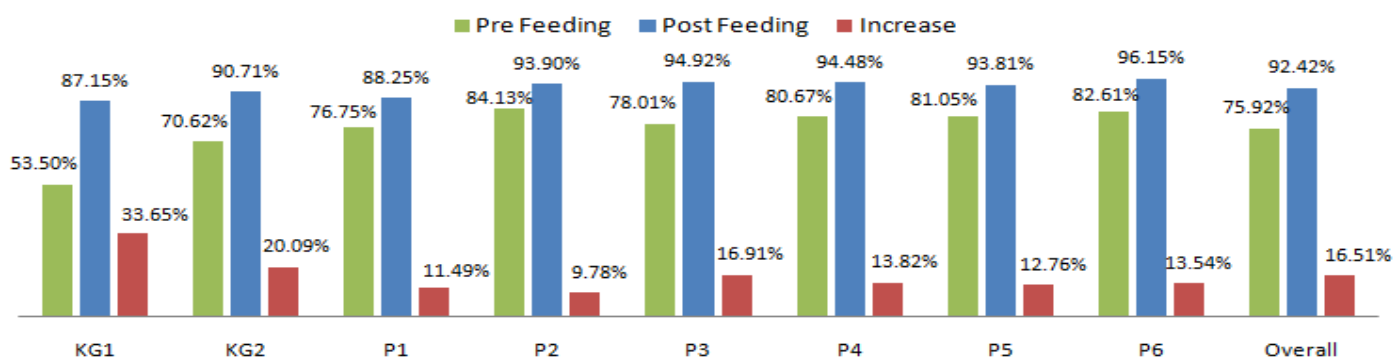
¹ Sarah Gardner, ATEGhana Chief Executive, 20/09/2015

Karbo Primary School

Attendance

Of the children registered at Karbo Primary School, the overall attendance rate before the feeding program began was at 75.92%. This alarmingly low rate of attendance highlighted that many children in the area fail to attend school, even when registered to attend. One particularly concerning statistic surrounded the KG1 class. Our attendance analysis showed that only 53.50% of possible school days were attended by students. Our (baseline monitoring) highlights the importance of a free school meal program as this attendance increased to 87.15% in the same period post-feeding, an increase of 33.65%.

Overall Attendance Records - Karbo Primary



We are proud to report that the overall attendance rate of students at Karbo Primary School has increased by 16.5% from 75.92% to the current rate of 92.42%.

Weight and Height

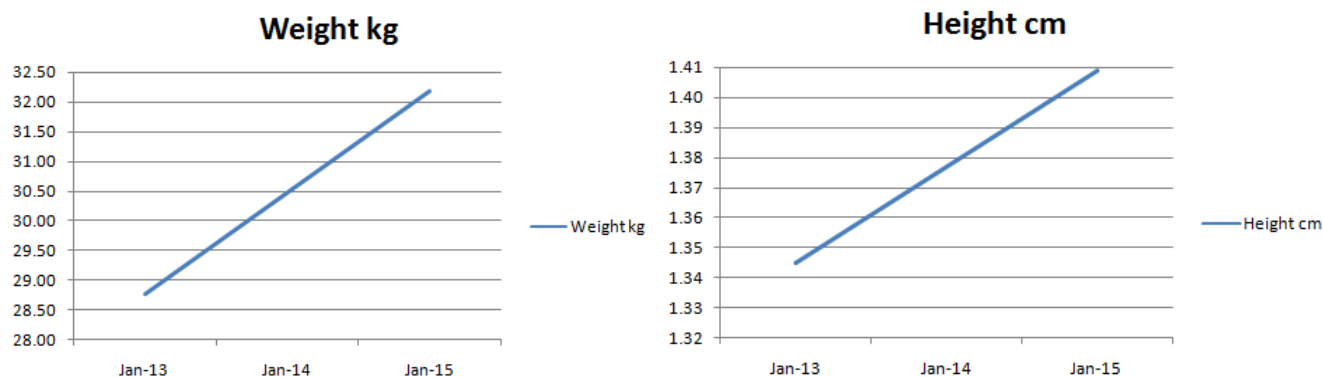
As well as enabling children to access education, the second reason for the EducATE program is to address the issue of hunger, malnourishment and underfed children. The World Food Program explains that the severity of this issue in the Upper West Region of Ghana, stating that 'four out of ten children under the age of five are stunted or chronically malnourished.'² Having visibly noticed this issue herself, Sarah Gardner and ATE committed to feeding the 654 students that attend Karbo Primary and Junior High School; purchasing food products from local farmers and businesses and hiring 3 cooks to prepare meals for every student that attends each school. A team from ATE then periodically spend a day at each school, weighing and measuring the height of each student to enable us to track the impact the feeding program is having on their health and growth.

The feeding program began at Karbo Primary School in January 2013 and before it began, ATE weighed and measured each student attending the school. We found the average weight of the students attending the primary school to be 28.76kg, and the average height 1.35m. As shown in the table below, the average height of students at the school has increased in a two year period by 0.97% and the weight by 5.7%. One clear improvement that our research and analysis indicated was the great increase in average weight of students in KG2, which improved by 2.28kg or 12%. We also noticed however, that the average height and weight of students from P6 declined – this is something we hope to be looking into soon.

Date Measurements taken	KG1		KG2		P1		P2		P3		P4		P5		P6		Prim Average	
	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)	Height (m)	Weight (kg)
Jan-13	1.07	15.82	1.19	18.97	1.28	23.50	1.32	25.84	1.39	30.29	1.44	33.70	1.50	37.10	1.57	44.87	1.35	28.76
Jan-14	x	x	x	x	1.27	24.18	1.35	27.51	1.38	31.48	1.45	36.36	1.49	39.11	1.55	44.54	1.42	33.86
Increase from Pre feeding	x	x	x	x	-0.01	0.68	0.03	1.67	-0.01	1.19	0.01	2.66	-0.01	2.01	-0.02	-0.32	0.07	5.10
Jan-15	1.06	16.91	1.20	21.25	1.32	26.03	1.34	27.54	1.42	31.77	1.47	36.06	1.51	39.94	1.56	43.72	1.36	30.40
Increase from Pre feeding	-0.01	1.10	0.01	2.28	0.04	2.53	0.02	1.70	0.03	1.48	0.03	2.36	0.01	2.84	-0.01	-1.15	0.01	1.64
	-0.82%	6.93%	0.78%	12.00%	2.75%	10.76%	1.24%	6.59%	1.95%	4.87%	1.79%	6.99%	0.77%	7.65%	-0.78%	-2.56%	0.97%	5.70%

² The World Food Program, <https://www.wfp.org/countries/ghana>

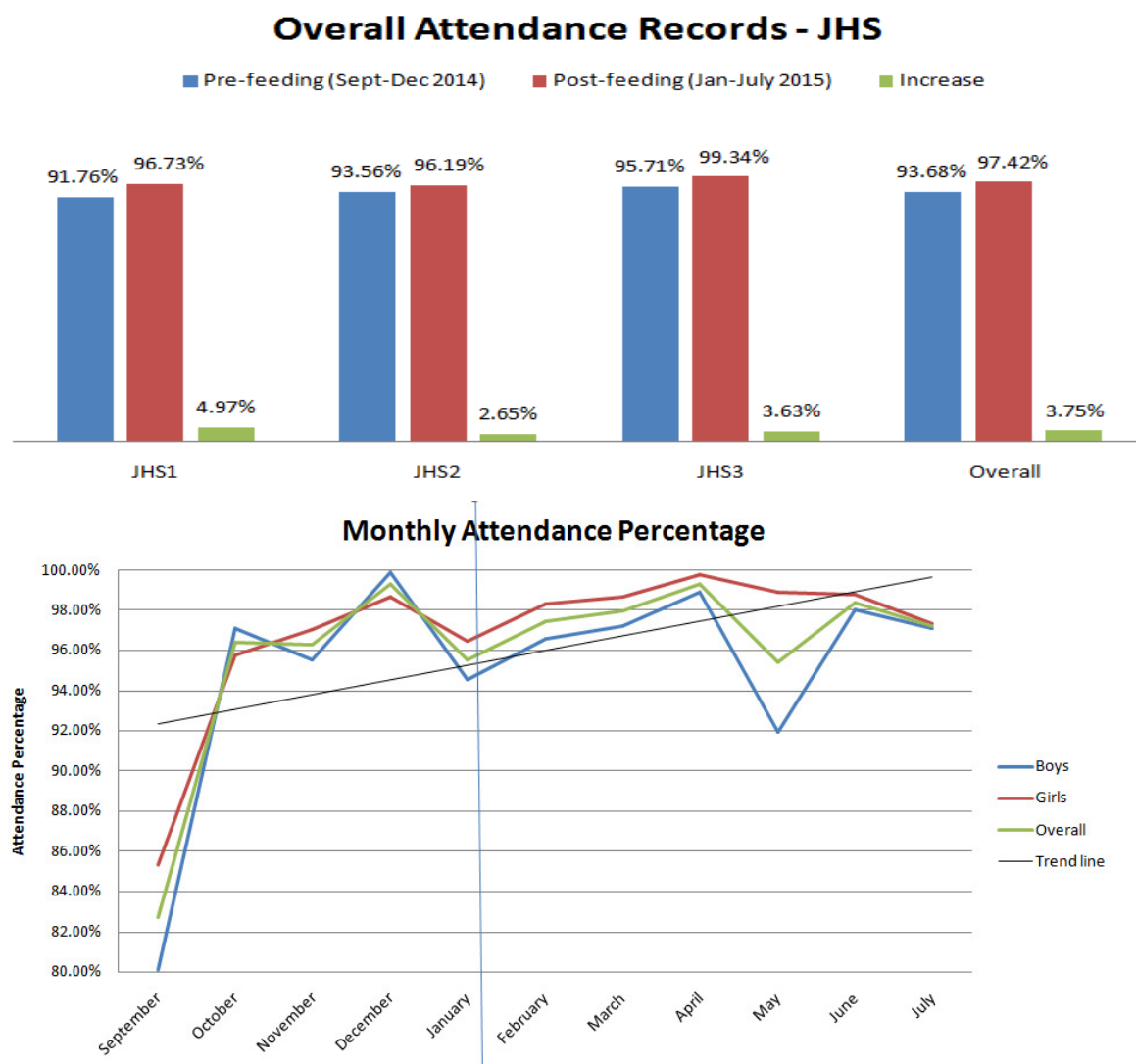
The graphs below highlight the overall growth in height and weight of the students that were measured at Karbo Primary School.



Karbo JHS

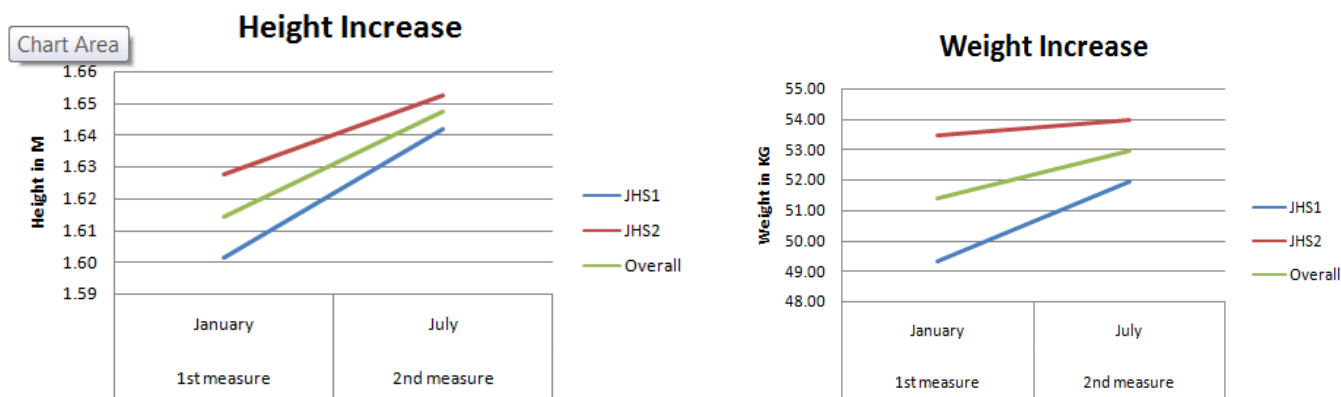
Prior to the EducATE program being implemented at the JHS, the attendance rate was already noticeably higher than the Primary School, with an average attendance rate of 93.68%. This is likely to be due to a number of reasons, but could include; financial limitations of students families, students with worse previous attendance rates dropping out of education to work, and students having a greater understanding of the importance of exams and their studies at this stage of the education

Following the implementation of the school feeding program, attendance has increased by 3.75% to 97.42%. As shown in the table below, the class with the greatest attendance increase was JHS1.



The most encouraging graphic shown below, illustrates the ever increasing trend of the increasing attendance rate at Karbo Junior High School. The UN Human Development report suggests that May-June is the busiest time for farmers in the area. This could result in students not attending school.

Before the EducATE school feeding program was implemented at Karbo JHS, the average weight of students was 51.29kg with an average height of 1.61m. At the second time of measuring, JHS 3 had already finished their exams and had left for the summer, however we were able to obtain secondary measurements from JHS1 and 2.



After the first 6 months of providing free school meals, we can already see an increase in weight and height to 52.97kg and 1.65m respectively. The graphs above highlight the particularly impressive improvement in the height and weight of students from JHS1. Our records indicate that the average height of students in JHS1 has increased by 4cm and weight by 2.65kg. These positive records illustrate the success of the EducATE program and highlight that it is critical for ATE to carry on growing and developing this program.

Overall, we are very happy the impact that the EducATE program is having on the health of the students we feed daily.

Dowine

As a result of the success of the EducATE program at Karbo Primary and JHS, ATE is excited to announce that as of January 2016 we will be extending the program to a third school in Dowine. This extension will increase the amount of students we are providing free school meals by 211, to over 850. The school PTA and teachers have showed their anticipation and excitement of the extension of this project by committing to build a school kitchen for our cooks to prepare meals from.

In order to record a baseline, ATE recorded the pre-feeding height and weight of students at Dowine. The average height of students attending Dowine JHS was 1.66cm and the average weight was 54.5Kg. According to our data analysis, these figures suggest that the students attending Dowine JHS were taller (5cm) and heavier (3.11KG), on average than the students attending Karbo JHS prior to ATE providing free school meals at each school. As a result of this, more research is required to find out if the large difference between the two records can be explained by cultural, location, agricultural, age related, educational or other reasons. ATE will also continue to carry out detailed analysis and record keeping, monitoring the impact of the feeding program at each school.